Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1–8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended). An arrangement in a data switch having at least one ~~plurality of~~ ingress ports and a plurality of egress ports connected by a switching fabric, the arrangement comprising:

at least one ~~plurality of~~ ingress queues configured to queue data derived from data packets received at the ingress ports;

a broadcast packet estimation unit configured to ~~obtain a measure of the frequency of arrival of broadcast packets based on a measure of~~determine the length of ~~at least one of~~ the at least one ingress queues; and

a broadcast packet control unit having a broadcast storm control mode in which the broadcast packet control unit performs a broadcast storm control operation, the broadcast packet control unit configured to operate in broadcast storm control mode ~~based on~~if the obtained measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue~~the frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~ rises above a first predetermined level before the data packets are queued in the at least one ingress queue, wherein the broadcast packet control unit is configured to only

admit broadcast packets to the at least one ingress queue when not in broadcast storm control mode.

Claim 10 (currently amended). The arrangement according to claim 9 further comprising a plurality of ingress queues wherein the broadcast packet estimation unit is configured to determine the length of the at least one ingress queue ~~measure of the frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~ as the length of the longest of the ingress queues.

Claim 11 (previously presented). The arrangement according to claim 10 wherein the broadcast packet control unit is configured to perform the broadcast storm control by deleting at least some of the broadcast packets.

Claim 12 (cancelled).

Claim 13 (cancelled).

Claim 14 (previously presented). The arrangement according to claim 9 wherein the broadcast packet control unit is configured to perform the broadcast storm control by deleting at least some of the broadcast packets.

Claim 15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (currently amended). A method of operating a data switch having at least one ~~plurality of~~ ingress ports and a plurality of egress ports connected by a switching fabric, the switch having at least one ~~plurality of~~ ingress queues for queuing data derived from data packets arriving at the ingress ports, the method comprising:

~~a)~~ deriving a measure of a length of the at least one ~~of the~~ ingress queues~~;~~

~~b) using the measure of a length of at least one of the queues to obtain a measure of a frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~; and

~~c)~~ triggering a broadcast storm control mode in which broadcast storm control is performed before the data packets are queued in the at least one ingress queue ~~according to~~ if the measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue rises above a first predetermined level~~measure of the frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~.

Claim 18 (currently amended). The method according to claim 17 wherein ~~step b)~~ there are a plurality of ingress ports and ingress queues ~~further comprises using~~ and the measure of a length of the longest of the ingress queues is used to obtain the measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue~~frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~.

Claim 19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (currently amended). The method according to claim 18[[9]], wherein the broadcast storm control is performed by deleting at least some of the broadcast packets.

Claim 21 (currently amended). The method according to claim 20 further including a step of ceasing to delete packets when the measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue~~frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~ falls below a second predetermined level.

Claim 22 (cancelled).

Claim 23 (currently amended). The method according to claim [[22]]17, wherein the broadcast storm control is performed by deleting at least some of the broadcast packets.

Claim 24 (currently amended). The method according to claim 17 wherein there are a plurality of ingress port and ingress queues ~~step b) further comprises using a sum a~~ and the length of each of the ~~a~~ plurality of ~~the at least one~~ ingress queues is summed to obtain the measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue~~frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~.

Claim 25 (currently amended). A method of operating a data switch having at least one ~~plurality of~~ ingress ports and a plurality of egress ports connected by a switching fabric, the switch having at ~~plurality of~~ least one ingress queues for queuing data derived from data packets arriving at the ingress ports, the method comprising:

~~a)~~ deriving a measure of a length of the at least one ~~of the~~ ingress queues~~;~~

~~b) using the measure of a length of a longest of the at least one queues to obtain a measure of a frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~; and

~~c)~~ deleting at least some of the broadcast packets before admission to the ingress queue ~~based upon~~if the measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue rises above a first predetermined level~~measure of the frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~.

Claim 26 (currently amended). The method of claim 25 wherein there are a plurality of ingress port and ingress queues ~~step b) further comprises using the measure of~~ and the length of the longest of the ~~at least one~~ plurality of ingress queues is used as the length of the at least one ingress queue~~measurement of the frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~.

Claim 27 (currently amended). The method according to claim 26 further including a step of ceasing to delete packets when the measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue ~~frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~ falls below a predetermined level.

Claim 28 (currently amended). The method according to claim 25 further including a step of ceasing to delete packets when the measure of the length of the at least one ingress queue ~~frequency of arrival of broadcast packets~~ falls below a predetermined level.